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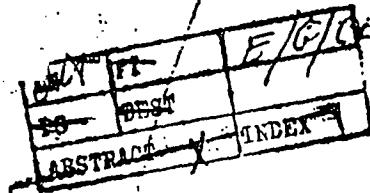
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SECRET 081525Z CITE MUNICH 1645

PRIORITY DIRECTOR INFO BONN (EYES ONLY)

SECTION 1 OF 2

RYBAT CATUSK CAVATA



REFERENCE STA-78903. CODED BE FEDD TO ECKERSTADT ENGINES.

ON 1 DECEMBER 1988 BERNHARDT TOLD WEHNER HE WOULD NOT RECOGNIZE CAVATA AS A PRINCIPAL OFFICER IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE (ALLEGEDLY UNBEKNOWNST TO

UTILITY) THAT HERBERT WEHNER (Guenther NOLLAU) WAS DEMANDING APPOINTMENT OF CAVATA/II FOR THE SECOND SPOT IN CATUSK AS CONDITION FOR SPD AGREEMENT TO THE CHANCELLOR'S SELECTION FOR THE NUMBER ONE POSITION. BERNHARDT GAVE GRENDENCE TO THE REPORT BECAUSE, HE SAID, IT WAS WEHNER WHO HAD INSISTED THAT CAVATA/II BE KEPT ON AT CAVATA WHEN THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR WANTED TO RELIEVE HIM OF ALL DUTIES AFTER THE RECENT PUBLICATION AFFAIR. WEHNER PRESUMABLY SAID THAT ALTHOUGH CAVATA/II WAS NO PARTY MEMBER HE HAD DONE A GREAT DEAL FOR THE PARTY. BERNHARDT FEARED THAT THE APPOINTMENT OF BOTH PRINCIPAL OFFICERS WOULD BE DECIDED AS A PACKAGE DEAL.

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2. HIS REASON FOR INFORMING WOFIRM AT THIS STAGE WAS

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THAT UNDER CURRENT SECURITY REGULATIONS BOTH AT NATO AND AT CATUSK BERNHARDT COULD NOT GRANT CAVATA/II EITHER COSMIC, SIGINT OR COMINT CLEARANCES, ALL OF WHICH HE WOULD HAVE TO HAVE AS NUMBER TWO MAN AT CATUSK. BERNHARDT SAID THAT IF CAVATA/II WERE TO BE APPOINTED HE (BERNHARDT) WOULD BE FORCED TO GRANT HIM CLEARANCES IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE RULES. HE THEN CITED A NUMBER OF OLD ITEMS IN THE CAVATA/II FILE, HIS EARLY POSTWAR YEARS IN THE SOVZONE, THE ALLEGATIONS OF SOME PUNISHABLE ACTIVITY THERE, HIS ALLEGED DEPARTURE FROM THE SOVZONE UNDER DUBIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES, AND A FEW OTHER ITEMS, NONE OF WHICH HE SAID HAD EVER BEEN CLEARED UP TO THE POINT WHERE CAVATA/II COULD BE HIRED BY CATUSK SHOULD HE BE CONSIDERED FOR ORDINARY EMPLOYMENT. BERNHARDT EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT WOFIRM COULD COME UP WITH DEROGATORY INFORMATION WHICH COULD BE USED TO FORESTALL FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF CAVATA/II FOR THE JOB. THE SUGGESTION IS INCONSISTENT WITH EVERYTHING WE HAVE HEARD IN THE PAST CONCERNING THE APPOINTMENTS AND INDEED WE COULD FORESEE THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE PRIME CATUSK-SPONSORED CANDIDATE FOR THE NUMBER ONE POSITION MIGHT EVEN FLATLY

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REFUSE TO SERVE IF HE WERE FORCED TO ACCEPT CAVATA/II AS
HIS DEPUTY.

3. BONN COMMENTS THAT:

A. THE SPD SPONSORSHIP OF CAVATA/II FOR
CATUSK VICE PRESIDENCY GAINS CREDENCE IN VIEW OF
INFORMATION FROM SEVERAL BONN SOURCES WITH RESPECT TO
POLITICAL MANEUVERING SURROUNDING RETIREMENT OF
UTILITY. PER PREVIOUS REPORTING SPD INITIALLY WAS
MOST ANXIOUS TO NOMINATE THEIR OWN CANDIDATE TO REPLACE
UTILITY, CONSIDERING AT ONE TIME EVEN AID MINISTER
WISCHNEWSKI. ACCORDING TO CALLIAS, SPD HAS NOW FINALLY
AGREED TO ACCEPT WESSEL AND CABINET IS SET TO APPROVE HIS
APPOINTMENT MOMENTARILY. WITH THEIR FAILURE TO ATTAIN TOP
POSITION SPD CAN BE EXPECTED TO INSIST THAT NUMBER TWO SLOT
GO TO MAN OF THEIR CHOOSING.

B. WITH RESPECT TO WEHNER'S SUPPORT OF
CAVATA/II, THIS IS ESSENTIALLY HOW HE GOT THE CAVATA VICE
PRESIDENCY. AFTER THE RETIREMENT OF THE PREVIOUS VICE
PRESIDENT, MINISTER LUECKE OFFERED TO THE SPD THE OPPORTUNITY
TO NOMINATE AN SPD MAN. IT WAS A POLITICAL MOVE TO PLACATE THE

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BEST AVAILABLE

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SPD WHO HAD ATTACKED CAVATA DURING THE TELEPHONE AFFAIR. AFTER CONSIDERING NUMEROUS SPD PARTY MEMBERS, WEHNER FINALLY INFORMED LUECKE THAT THE SPD'S CANDIDATE WAS CAVATA/11 AND HE WAS PROMPTLY APPOINTED. AFTER CAVATA/11 WROTE HIS UNTIMELY ARTICLE ON DEFENSE POLICY FOR THE STERN MAGAZINE, LUECKE WAS ABOUT TO FIRE C/11 FOR MEDDLING IN POLITICS, BUT WEHNER CAME TO C/11'S DEFENSE AND CONVINCED LUECKE THAT C/11 HAD NOT WRITTEN THE ARTICLE AT SPD REQUEST. WEHNER AGAIN UNDOUBTEDLY CONSIDERS C/11 THE MOST QUALIFIED MAN AVAILABLE TO THE SPD FOR THE JOB.

4. AFTER CONSULTATION WITH BONN, STATION POSITION IS THAT, WE CERTAINLY SHOULD NOT COMMENT TO CATUSK OR TO ANYONE ELSE OFFICIALLY ON THE QUALIFICATIONS OR LACK THEREOF OF ANY CANDIDATE. THE DECISION IS STRICTLY AN INTERNAL GERMAN DECISION AND WE CANNOT PERMIT OURSELVES TO BE PLACED IN A POSITION OF BEING ACCUSED OF ATTEMPTING TO INFLUENCE THE APPOINTMENT. MUNICH THEREFORE TELLING BERNHARDT THAT WE HAVE NO COMMENT NOR CAN WE ADD ANY INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO C/11'S SECURITY FILE, EXCEPT THAT IT OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT INTERIOR MINISTRY AND CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATED C/11 YEARS

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AGO WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

5. FYI: BONN HAS REVIEWED THEIR EXTENSIVE C/II FILE, WHICH CONTAINS DETAILS ON NUMEROUS RUMORS AND ACCUSATIONS AGAINST C/II, WHICH INVESTIGATED AT HIS REQUEST, BUT NEVER WERE CONFIRMED. FILE INDICATES THAT UTILITY PERSONALLY AND NUMEROUS OTHER CATUSK SOURCES REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED THEIR DOUBTS AGAINST C/II, BUT NOTHING WAS EVER PROVEN. BONN REVIEWED C/II'S SECURITY FILE PRIOR TO HIS LAST VISIT TO WOLADY WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

6. GIVEN THE MUTUALLY KNOWN DISLIKE OF CAVATA/II FOR CATUSK AND THE EQUALLY WELL KNOWN ANTI PATHY OF NUMEROUS SENIOR CATUSKERS TOWARD CAVATA/II MUNICH BELIEVES THAT THE ACTUAL APPOINTMENT OF CAVATA/II TO NUMBER TWO SPOT WOULD CREATE SITUATION WELL NIGH UNTENABLE FOR BOTH SIDES AND SIMULTANEOUSLY HARMFUL TO WOFIRM/CATUSK RELATIONSHIP. CAVATA/II COULD BE EXPECTED TO ATTEMPT INFLUENCE UPON CATUSK PERSONNEL POLICY EXPECIALLY CONCERNING SENIOR POSITIONS. MANY SENIOR CATUSKERS COULD BE EXPECTED TO MEET HIM WITH DISTRUST AND RESENTMENT WHILE OTHERS MIGHT WELL

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CONSIDER SEPARATION FROM THEIR SERVICE. C/II WOULD BE
CONSIDERED A PARTY POLITICAL SPD PENETRATION OF CATUSK
IF NOTHING WORSE. WOFIRM COULD EXPECT HIM TO MAKE
HYPERCRITICAL REPORT TO THE SPD OF OUR CURRENT AND PAST
LIAISON ACTIVITIES INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL, SOCIAL AND
PERSONAL ASPECTS THEREOF. AS PART OF CHAIN REACTION AND
IN SELF DEFENSE CATUSK WOULD BE MORE OR LESS FORCED TO
REDUCE THESE ACTIVITIES MATERIALLY WITH CONCOMMITTANT
DISADVANTAGES FOR BOTH ORGANIZATIONS.

7. MUNICH CONSIDERS IT QUITE POSSIBLE, IF NOT
PROBABLE, THAT THE NOMINATION OF CAVATA/II, MAY BE
DESCRIBED AS A PLOY WHEREBY, AFTER CAVATA/II'S NAME
WOULD BE WITHDRAWN, THE SPD WOULD THEN COME UP WITH
OTHER CANDIDATES WHO IN CONTRAST TO CAVATA/II MIGHT
BECOME ACCEPTABLE.

8. WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ABOVE ASPECT, ALIAS
WENDT STATED THAT MOST RECENT CABINET MEETING

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CONCERNED ONLY WITH MORE IMMEDIATE MATTERS AND
ADJOURNED SOONER THAN SCHEDULED DUE TO A "COLD"
AFFLICTING THE CHANCELLOR. ACCORDING TO WENDT,
UTILITY FEELS CHANCELLOR STILL COMMITTED TO CATUSK
PACKAGE, WESSEL AND WENDT.

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